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alaska people

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2005 / NO. 28

[a newsletter for employees and friends of BLM-Alaska]

BLM Alaska

Getting to know you

New employees learn about BLM Alaska at local orientation

They came from Fairbanks, they came from Juneau, and they came from Anchorage. "They" are about 70 new BLM-Alaska employees who traveled to Girdwood in early November to learn about BLM Alaska at Local Perspectives, an orientation program in its third year.

From early morning until early evening, participants learned about the BLM, its purpose and how they fit in. Sessions were a mix of PowerPoint presentations and hands-on activities. Participants were particularly interested in human resource issues and showered Human Resource Management specialists **Tamara Neukam**, **Rebecca Moore** and **Jack Busteed** with questions about benefits, career development and the Cost of Living Allowance.

Local Perspectives team chair **Greg Balen** says, "Our new employees need to get the big picture of our organization in Alaska, not so much from the national perspective at this point. Plus it's a tremendous networking opportunity.

DANIELLE ALLEN, ASO

KRISTINE KOSNIK, **Christine Langley** and **Sindra Wolfsen** contemplate pieces in their Alaska Passports. The Passport game was used at Local Perspectives as a creative way to test employees new found knowledge of BLM. Local Perspectives, BLM Alaska's orientation training for new employees, was held at the Alyeska Resort in Girdwood, Nov. 7-10.

"Our management team members make a point of being involved in this training to demonstrate their support and the program's importance."

Members of the BLM Alaska Leadership Team were on hand throughout to interact with employees. Each gave presentations explaining their respective staff programs and responsibilities. Field managers engaged attendees in case studies based on real issues confronting the field and district office. **Carole Huey**, realty specialist at the Fairbanks District Office, says she participated in a scenario involving an easement in Klutina. Her background gave her an advantage over the rest of the participants because she knew all the regulations.

Kicking off the session was former Alaska governor Walter Hickel who gave a colorful account

see page 8, **ORIENTATION**

AP ONLINE!

BLM employees can view **Alaska People** in full color at:
http://web.ak.blm.gov/ak_emps.html

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Making copies ... and so much more

It's a familiar scene. Some poor soul is sweating and swearing at the Xerox machine trying to figure out how to clear the paper jam because he needs 30 double-sided copies of a report for the state director, plus there's a color cover that needs to get stapled to the front. Ugh!

"Let the professionals handle those jobs," advises **Glen Nelson**, who manages the BLM Alaska Print Shop at the Anchorage Federal Office Building. **Paul Russell** and **Greg Chavez** round out the crew. "We can print, copy, staple, laminate, burn and label CDs and DVDs and much more."

Services are available "first-come, first-served" to all BLM offices statewide plus five other agencies in the building. But, that doesn't mean you always have to wait in line. The Print Shop staff can usually turn around those last-minute jobs pronto.

You can drop off your job request (with a hard copy original or electronic file) at the Print Shop on the first floor at AFOB or send it by e-mail, inter-office mail or the FTP site.

So, the next time you head for the copy machine, send the job to the Print Shop. Think of the time and frustration (and paper and ink) you'll save.

VANESSA RATHBUN, ASO

PAUL RUSSELL BINDS A STACK of legal references at the BLM Alaska Print Shop in the Anchorage Federal Office Building. The Print Shop offers many services beyond printing and copying to all BLM offices statewide plus five other agencies within the building.

BLM Alaska Print Shop Services

- Black-and-white printing & copying
- Full-color printing & copying
- White or colored paper in varying weights and sizes
- Binding
- Collating
- Stitching
- Folding
- Laminating up to 25" wide and any length
- Color transparencies
- Large format black-and-white copying (for example, Master Title Plats)
- Burning and labeling CDs and DVDs
- And more – call the print shop for information, 907-271-5744

alaska people

ALASKA STATE OFFICE / ANCHORAGE FIELD OFFICE / ALASKA FIRE SERVICE / GLENNALLEN FIELD OFFICE
FAIRBANKS DISTRICT OFFICE / ARCTIC FIELD OFFICE / CENTRAL YUKON FIELD OFFICE
EASTERN INTERIOR FIELD OFFICE / JUNEAU-JOHN RISHEL MINERAL INFORMATION CENTER / JOINT PIPELINE OFFICE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT / ALASKA STATE OFFICE / 222 W. 7TH AVE. #13 / ANCHORAGE, AK 99513 / 907-271-5555

writer/editor **WENDY LONGTIN, ASO** graphics/layout **VANESSA RATHBUN, ASO**

contributors

TERESA McPHERSON, AFO / DANIELLE ALLEN, ASO / ED BOVY, ASO / BETH HARTT, ASO / ELLA WRIGHT, ASO
SHELLYE POSTER, ASO / CRAIG McCAA, FDO / DOUG STOCKDALE, FDO / KEVIN McIVER, AFS / MARNIE GRAHAM, GFO

[employee profile]

GFO's Jindra is a jack-of-all-trades

If you call the Glennallen Field Office and hear the pleasant, professional voice of **Tami Jindra**, stereotyped images of a hard-living, tattooed, Harley-riding mama may be the farthest thing from your mind. However, if you picture a fun-loving, Harley-riding grandma, you'd be right on.

This grandmother of three often jokes with her grandkids, "Grandma will just have to take a ride up on her Harley to see you." And a pillow in the office boasts, "You never see a motorcycle parked outside of a psychiatrist office."

Jindra's custom 2002 bright aqua Sportster leaves other bike lovers drooling. Heck, it leaves non-bike lovers drooling ... and dreaming of adventures on the open road.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RYAN McELICE

HARLEY-LOVER TAMI JINDRA is a realty tech at Glennallen and also serves as safety officer, docket manager and web master, but she always makes time to get on the road and enjoy her bright aqua Sportster.

Why a Harley in Alaska? "I started riding motorcycles when I was 18," explains Jindra. "I fell in love with them right away and always wanted a Harley ... it's an American icon. Two years ago, my husband took a business trip down to the Kenai and while he was there, he bought me a Harley as a surprise. He knew I wanted a Sportster and so, he found one and bought it."

How often do you ride? "My husband has a 2003 Springer. In the summer, we ride every chance we get. And, we try to go to the HOG Rally (Harley Owners Group) every year. We especially like to go when it's in Fairbanks. Eventually we want to ride Highway 1 on the California coast."

Jindra recently became a realty technician at GFO and hopes to continue to assume greater responsibilities in the realty field. "I enjoy working with realty issues. The recent Land Transfer Acceleration Act makes it an exciting time to be involved in land status issues in the state of Alaska," says Jindra. "Also, the career opportunities in the field are attractive to me." Jindra still helps staff GFO's public room process wood cutting permits, subsistence hunting permits, gravel permits, and assists the public with interpreting maps, orienting them to land status, hunting boundaries, and identifying recreation opportunities.

Jindra also serves as GFO's collateral duty safety officer, working to keep GFO employees safe. She's also in charge of docket.

And, if that's not enough, Jindra's career history, education and hobbies have helped tremendously in her willingness to act as the GFO webmaster. "When I first came to GFO they needed someone to maintain the Web site as a regular part of their job duties. I had the skill, ability and willingness to take that on."

Jindra is just an all-around pleasant person to work with. Ride on Harley grandma!

— Marnie Graham, Glennallen Field Office

We're all pulling for you, Carol!

Special get-well wishes go to **Carol Thrash**, staff assistant to the associate state director, who is recovering from pancreatic surgery and getting ready for follow-up treatment in St. Louis. According to hospital staff, Carol may have set a record for patient emails because so many Alaska BLMers sent her messages! Carol returned to Alaska in mid-November and dropped by the State Office for a short visit and shared some classic Carol-isms such as "You all don't know how lucky you are to be able to come to work every day!" and this one describing how she copes with the physical pain: "I told my doctor that if I'm only crying when thinking of my family and friends, then I've got my priorities right." She and husband Jimmy will be heading back to St. Louis in early December where they'll stay with their daughter during Carol's treatment. We're all anxious to have Carol healthy. If you'd like to drop Carol a note, send it to:

CAROL THRASH

[redacted]

WENDY LONGTIN, ASO

COMMUNICATIONS CHIEF Jody Weil, right, gives **Carol Thrash** a big hug during her visit to the State Office in mid-November.

Scholarship honors former EEO manager

BLMers might remember **Roy Walker** as a dapper dresser, fleet-footed dancer, and gleeful but off-key caroler during our Christmas parties. However, the Roy Walker Scholarship honors the memory of the former BLM Alaska EEO manager who died in 2003 for his volunteer service with the Multicultural Student Leadership Conference (MSLC).

MSLC evolved from the 1986 Minority Student Female Leadership Conference. Funding the female and subsequent leadership conferences was the Anchorage School District's response to a sex equity committee's alarming report on the number of African American female high school dropouts in the 1980s. ASD's Community School Education Office requested help from local professionals in the community to establish training that would better prepare the students for the future. And Walker was among the one-time all-volunteer committee.

During the years when funding for the MSLC was cut, Walker worked tirelessly. He succeeded in getting in-kind and monetary contributions to keep the annual leadership conference going. His friends in the food service business contributed to the cause by reducing their prices.

His biggest challenge was providing enough food, especially pizza, for a couple hundred (sometimes less) high school students. At times Walker paid out-of-pocket when they ran out of food.

In May 2003, Walker and BLM co-worker **Ella Wright** were among 425 local residents to receive public recognition from ASD for their work with the MSLC.

In January 2005, the MSLC committee submitted their proposal to Anchorage's Promise to develop a scholarship in honor of Walker. Anchorage's Promise is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization to encourage and support local youth. Contributions are tax-deductible.

KIM MINCER, ASO

ROY WALKER, BLM Alaska's EEO manager until his death in 2003, was a dedicated community volunteer. Walker is pictured here with his young son at the BLM Alaska picnic in 2002.

Thirty high school seniors attending the 2005 Multicultural Conference were offered the opportunity to apply for the Roy Walker Scholarship.

Bartlett High School's Brandon Williams, who excelled scholastically and was a community leader, won the $1,000 scholarship and planned to attend Oregon State University to pursue a career either as an accountant or as a football coach. Walker's widow, Jeannie, supported the 2005 Roy Walker Scholarship wholeheartedly. She says, "The Multicultural Student Leadership Conference was important to him, so it's important to me."

— Ella Wright, Alaska State Office

It's open season for Health Benefits and Flexible Spending Accounts

During the annual Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) Open Season, Nov. 14-Dec. 12, employees eligible to participate may enroll, change health plans or options, cancel their FEHB enrollment, change participation in premium conversion (waive or begin participation), and also enroll in the Federal Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) Program. The Federal FSA Program, also known as FSAFEDS, lets you set aside tax-free money to pay for out-of-pocket health and dependent care expenses.

What is a Flexible Spending Account?

A Flexible Spending Account is an employee benefit that allows you to set aside money, on a pre-tax basis, for certain kinds of common expenses. With an FSA, you can reduce your taxes while paying for services you'd have to pay for anyway.

The Federal FSA Program offers:

- *The Health Care Flexible Spending Account* (HCFSA) for health care expenses not paid by FEHB or any other insurance.
- *The Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account* (DCFSA) for dependent care expenses that allow you (and your spouse) to work or look for work, or that allows your spouse to attend school full-time.

Where to Get More Information

SHPS should be your first source of contact. SHPS offers a number of resources that will help you learn more about the Federal FSA program and keep you informed on the latest developments. And whether you choose to go online, or want to speak to a customer service representative, just contact SHPS at any one of the resources below:

- **www.fsafeds.com**
- 1-877-FSAFEDS (1-877-372-3337)
- FSAFEDS Program, P.O. Box 36880, Louisville, KY 40233-6880

Clearing the air on office names

There's been a lot of confusion lately over which field offices are now district offices. Word from the Alaska Leadership Team is that, until further notice, **Anchorage and Glennallen remain field offices** and should be referred to as such. The Fairbanks office, formerly known as the Northern Field Office, has officially changed to the **Fairbanks District Office** (FDO) in late summer and has three field offices within its district: Arctic, Eastern Interior and Central Yukon.

Anchorage Field Office

Beck, Denton aid Katrina response

Anchorage Field Office's hazardous materials man **Larry Beck** and subsistence specialist **Jeff Denton** are currently helping with Hurricane Katrina reconstruction efforts in the New Orleans area. Beck was deployed to New Orleans Oct. 1 to lend hazardous materials expertise during cleanup and is now serving his second 30-day assignment. He's expected to return to Alaska around Thanksgiving. Denton was recruited Oct. 30 for his threatened and endangered species and wetlands expertise. He is deployed for up to 90 days, with a one-week break every 30 days. Denton's wife **Lorri**, who works in Conveyances, said Jeff was pleased to be selected and feels it will be an interesting and rewarding assignment.

"In his regular job, he's away from home for subsistence meetings and wildlife surveys much of the time," says Lorri. "This time, though, he only had two-and-a-half days' notice before leaving!"

Alaska Fire Service

AVIATION FUEL SHOP RECLAIMING ENERGY, SAVING MONEY: With the skyrocketing increases in fuel prices these days it is indeed a rarity when any organization can save money on fueling costs—but that is exactly what the Aviation Fuel Shop is doing at the Alaska Fire Service (AFS).

KEVIN McIVER, AFS

ALASKA FIRE SERVICE lead fuel specialist **Lindsay Wyatt** explains the fuel waste stream process that will ultimately heat the AFS fuel shop.

Under a current project, the AFS is retrofitting the fuel shop to include insulating the facility and installing a new heating system. But the real news is that AFS will redirect a portion of the fuel waste stream to the more productive in-house use of heating the fuel shop, rather then paying contractors to pick fuel waste for disposal. "With back-to-back record-breaking fire seasons and upward, spiraling fuel costs, it makes sense to take a good look at this waste stream for recoverable energy," says AFS lead fuel specialist **Lindsay Wyatt**. "Since the fuel shop is already performing most of the steps in this process—receiving, consolidating, testing and labeling—why not go the rest of the way and utilize that waste stream to reduce, or offset, long-term overhead fuel costs."

During the 2004 fire season, AFS delivered some 700,000 gallons of fuel, and Wyatt says that several types and grades come to the fuel shop for final disposition from fires, including; drum fuel caches, purge, out-of-date, and contaminated fuels. "By reducing our waste stream we should save in disposal costs, which vary from 35 cents to 50 cents per pound, or from about $97 to $125 per drum," says Wyatt. When complete, the project will not only reduce the waste stream and reclaim a valuable energy source, but will provide 100 percent of the fuel required to heat the fuel shop and run the emergency backup generators at AFS. "The fuel shop retrofitting, boiler installation and plumbing are scheduled for next summer," adds Wyatt. "The energy recovery and recycling program should be on going."

— Kevin McIver, Alaska Fire Service

Central Yukon Field Office

Smith teaching new dogs some old tricks

Howard Smith, archaeologist with the Central Yukon Field Office is helping a new generation of students prepare for the past ... or is that the future? Smith is in his third stint as a volunteer affiliate lecturer at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He's teaching "Anthropology 653: Cultural Resource Management," a semester-long course for advanced undergraduate and graduate students specializing in archaeology and historic preservation, or who are planning a career in some aspect of Cultural Resource Management (CRM). Much of the class consists of a project simulating real-life situations encountered by CRM archaeologists.

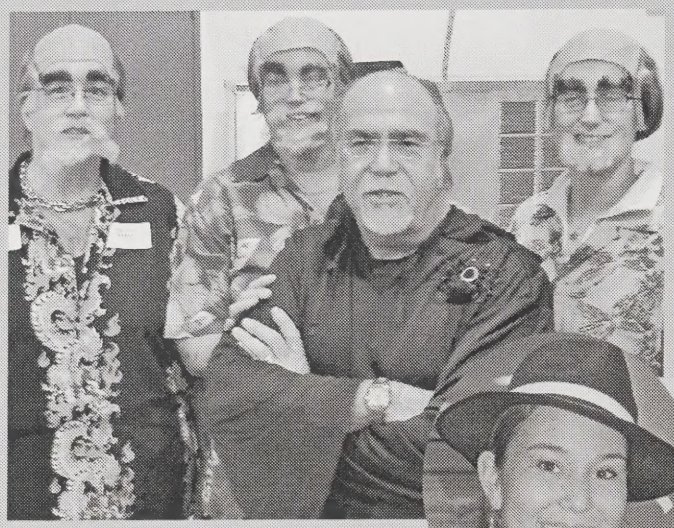
Juneau- John Rishel Mineral Information Center

Geology tour makes the news

Juneau-John Rishel Mineral Information Center's **Chris DeWitt** was featured in an Oct. 9 article in the

see page 6, **GEOLOGY**

Did You Know? The public can access the BLM Alaska external website at **www.ak.blm.gov**!



SEND IN THE CLONES: They say imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, but we're not sure what this group from Alaska Fire Service was thinking when they dressed up like EEO specialist Richard Lagesse. That's the real **Richard Lagesse** in front surrounded by clones (left to right) **Eileen Wallace, Charlyn Lacklen and Jennifer Hrobak.**

KEVIN McIVER, AFS

Trick or Treat!

THINGS GOT A LITTLE HAIRY (at right) for werewolf **Steve Stokke** when mad scientist (and fellow land surveyor) **Frank Hardt** threatened to perform an experiment. With one snap of his glove, Hardt intimidated the judges into awarding him the "scariest" costume award at the Anchorage Employee Association's Halloween festival at the State Office. **McKenzie Breaud** (center) shows off her bony little hand during the AEA's Halloween parade. Check out more photos at **web.ak.blm.gov/aea/activities.html**

ASO PHOTOS BY THOM JENNINGS & VANESSA RATHBUN

GEOLOGY, *from page 5*

Juneau Empire newspaper. DeWitt, supervisor at the BLM's facility on Mayflower Island, led a Saturday morning tour downtown explaining the geology of the mountains that surround Alaska's capital. DeWitt's first downtown geology walk has generated interest among other groups that have requested similar tours. DeWitt says that staff also conduct mining history tours of the old Treadwell Mining complex and are thinking about expanding to include a couple other geology tours in the area. For more information about the center, go to BLM Alaska's external website **www.ak.blm.gov** and click on the Juneau area of the Alaska map.

State Director's Office

RAC welcomes new members

The BLM Alaska Resource Advisory Council met Oct. 13-14 at the Campbell Creek Science Center in Anchorage. Scott Hala of Alaska Outdoor Access Alliance and Barbara Fullmer of Conoco Phillips were welcomed as new members. In 2006, the council will meet in Fairbanks, Juneau and Anchorage and take a field trip to South National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. For meeting minutes and more information about the RAC, go to **www.blm.gov/rac/**

HALA

FULLMER

Employee meeting slated for Dec. 14

It's that time of year so mark your calendars for the Holiday All Employees Meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 14, at the Anchorage Museum auditorium starting at 9 a.m. The Anchorage Employee Association is coordinating the afternoon holiday party in Module G of the Federal Building. Following in the video tradition, BLMers will be putting their own twist on the Charles Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol."

Support Services

IMs and IBs online

You can find Alaska Instruction Memorandums and Information Bulletins on the Alaska State Office Records Administration web site plus links to Washington Office IMs, IBs, manuals and handbooks, FOIA information and state records contacts at **web.ak.blm.gov** – click on "Support Services" under Programs, click on "Records Administration" under Information Resource Management.

Committees

New officers, reps elected to HRDC

The Human Resource Development Committee's

Did You Know? You can pay your government charge card online at **www.myeasypayment.com**

next meeting is Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 10-11, 2006, at the Campbell Tract Facility. New officers are **Lauri Jones** (GFO), chair; **Richard Napoleon** (JPO), vice chair; **Eileen Wallace** (AFS), secretary. New representatives are **Lucille Stickman** (AFO), **Lee Koss** (ASO), **Charmain McMillan** (ASO) and **Melody Smyth** (ASO). The groups is currently discussing telecommuting, the HRDC election process, employee safety when temperatures drop, and air quality at the Anchorage Federal Office Building. Contact your HRDC rep with any questions or concerns. Go to **web.ak.blm.gov** and click on "HRDC" for more information.

TERESA McPHERSON, AFO

Anchorage Field Office

BAGPIPES FILL CAMPBELL TRACT AIR: Brad Muir, left, of the Anchorage Field Office and friends Danny and Brady of Crow Creek Pipes and Drums provided traditional Scottish Highland music during National Public Lands Day at the BLM Campbell Creek Science Center in late September.

Feds invited to holiday festival

All federal employees are invited to the first-ever Holiday Ball on Thursday, Dec. 8, 6:30-11 p.m. at the Fourth Avenue Theater in Anchorage. The festive event will include delicious food, music, carols, dancing and socializing. Tickets are $30 for one, $50 for two or $25 each with your AEA Rewards Card. Contact **Belinda Coonrod,** 271-5066 for more information or to purchase tickets.

Helping each other during the holidays

The Anchorage Employee Association is sponsoring some events to raise funds and collected items for the Holiday Helper program which provides assistance to employees who are experiencing difficult times or hardships during the holidays.

Drop off non-perishable food items and new, unwrapped toys at the Anchorage Federal Office Building and other BLM locations during the Food & Toy Drive starting Nov. 21.Boxes will be located on the fourth and fifth floors at AFOB.

Donate baked goods and unwrapped gifts and crafts that would make a good holiday gift for AEA's Holiday Crafts Market and Bake Sale on Wednesday, Dec. 7, in the Denali Room. Bring your non-food donations to **Robin Rodriguez** by Dec. 6. Baked goods will be accepted the morning of the sale.

The money collected will be used to buy gift certificates from local stores to give to fellow employees. The holiday baskets of food and gift certificates will be distributed to families in need in mid-December.

If you would like to volunteer, donate or know someone in need, please contact **Steve Politsch** at 271-4293 or email at **steve_politsch@ak.blm.gov**. All requests for assistance are kept strictly confidential.

Energy & Minerals

BLM Unocal agree on gas storage

In early November, the BLM Alaska State Office executed the Kenai Gas Storage Agreement No. 3 with Unocal. The contract will help the company better meet seasonal swings in gas demand and lessen the chances that Southcentral Alaska will experience natural gas shortages in the high-use winter months.

The gas storage operations will occur on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge in the Swanson River Field, a producing oil and gas field since the late 1950s.

Terms are such that the gas storage operations will not require any additional surface disturbance and will not prolong the life of the field. The terms of Kenai Gas Storage Agreement No. 1, also in the Swanson River Field, were amended on the same date in order to put them in alignment with the terms of the No. 3. The No. 2 gas storage agreement was terminated in September.

Fitness Center

Fitness Center expansion nears completion

With construction almost finished in the addition to the Fitness Center in the Anchorage Federal Office Building, painters are being contracted to paint the entire center with a new palette of colors. Members should expect minimal disruptions to their workouts. The annual members meeting is scheduled for Jan. 18, 2006, in Module G. We'll celebrate the new addition, introduce new officers and feature a guest speaker.

Did You Know? The Correspondence Preparation Handbook is available electronically at **web.ak.blm.gov/swat/library/corresp_manual05.doc**

ORIENTATION, *from front page*

of his early days in Alaska and the importance of carefully developing our natural resources. Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior Cam Toohey also spoke about growing up in Alaska and how his perspective is helpful when dealing with Department of Interior issues about the state.

Local Perspectives began in 2003 and was held at the BLM offices in Anchorage. "Most states have a local orientation for their new employees, says **Jody Weil**, communications chief and Local Perspectives team member. "It's a companion to what BLM is doing nationally with Pathways."

Pathways is a week-long orientation held in Phoenix for BLM employees nationwide who have been with the agency from 2 to 5 years. Former Support Services Deputy State Director **Sandy Dunn** pushed for a local orientation program in Alaska. She felt a "local perspective" would play well to new BLM employees.

Neukam says some employees question the expense and the importance of this training, but she reasons that "if we can get just one employee to stay with the bureau because of Local Perspectives then the expense of the training is justified." Initial discussions are under way to possibly develop similar training to target mid-career employees and their needs.

Current members of the Local Perspectives planning team are Balen, Weil, Neukam, **Tonyua Abrom**, **Susan Lavin**, **Ella Wright** and **Bill Hamlett**.

— Danielle Allen, Alaska State Office

DANIELLE ALLEN, ASO

ASSOCIATE STATE DIRECTOR JULIA DOUGAN presided over an evening fireside chat where employees got their chance to quiz BLM's management team on topics of their choice. Seated are **Richard Napoleon** (left) and **Precious Williams**.

DANIELLE ALLEN, ASO

CAROLE HUEY, Fairbanks District realty specialist, questions acting Glennallen Field Manager **Garth Olsen**, about BLM's options in managing an easement during a group exercise. Alaska Fire Service public affairs specialist **Kevin McIver** (right) lends moral support.

DANIELLE ALLEN, ASO

THE HUMAN RESOURCES POWERHOUSE team of **Jack Busteed** and **Tamara Neukam** fielded a barrage of HR questions. **Rebecca Moore** (not shown) was also on hand to address HR issues.

GFO tackling recreation demands

When **Will Runnoe** arrived last year to fill the shoes of lead recreation planner at Glennallen, the office was revising the Gulkana and Delta River Management Plans, East Alaska Resource Management Plan, and several travel management projects including a major trails project in the Tangle Lakes Archeological District. Enough to send a new employee running, right? But Runnoe could see the GFO recreation staff was up to the challenge. During the past year, Runnoe assessed the plans' impacts and matched recreation needs and budgets with the expertise of the experienced staff. "Duties have been adjusted to to focus on developed recreation, wild and scenic rivers, and environmental education with a primary focus on special recreation permitting and travel management," Runnoe explains. "We lost one recreation planner position and had to make adjustments to pick up the workload."

Another issue is expanding visitor use in the Glennallen district, Runnoe adds.

"Because popular areas such as the Kenai are becoming overcrowded, tourists are looking for places that represent more of a true Alaskan experience. The Gulkana River is experiencing growth both from fishermen and wilderness floaters. The Denali Highway has become a focus for tourism brokers for its scenic splendor and backcountry environment," says Runnoe. "There is continued interest in expanding the heli-ski operations on Thompson Pass near Valdez which draws risk-takers from all over the world. In light of these attractive attributes, we needed to plan for the future needs of our recreating public. The reorganization will assist us in meeting those demands.

"What makes this reorganization and program effective is the experience, talent and motivation of the recreation staff at Glennallen," emphasizes Runnoe. "Without their knowledge and willingness to make things happen, I would be sunk. I couldn't ask for more."

— Marnie Graham, Glennallen Field Office

[comings & goings]

The following *full-time, permanent employee personnel actions* as provided by Human Resource Management are from Aug. 30-Nov. 2:

INTERNAL MOVES

PERMANENT

Matthew Allen, AFS, supervisory forestry tech

Marlene Cameron, ASO, Budget analyst

Natalie Cooper, ASO, navigable water specialist

Ana Dominguez, ASO, land law examiner

Gayle Ellis, ASO, Human Resources Management secretary

Paul Fuselier, ASO, cartographic technician

Dirk Giles, AFS, lead forestry tech

Randy Goodwin, ASO, outdoor recreation planner

Tami Jindra, GFO, realty tech

Jeff Kowalczyk, AFO, outdoor recreation planner

Mike Kuca, AFS, forestry tech/ fire suppression specialist

Randy Lenon, AFS, supervisory forestry tech

Lindsey Lien, AFS, program analyst

Kristina Livingston, AFS, lead forestry tech

Chris Marabetta, AFS, lead forestry tech

Carol Moore, ASO, state budget officer, moved to the Washington (D.C.) Budget Office.

Ilene Penas, AFS, supervisory forestry tech

Hazel Pitts, ASO, human resources assistant

Rory Spurlock, ASO, navigable water specialist

Corey Swisher, AFS, lead forestry tech

Robin Wellhouse, ASO, occupational safety and health specialist

Mike Zaidlicz, AFO, associate field manager

Hunt for masters degree complete

HUNT

Diane Hunt, a SCEP student serving on FDO's Public Affairs team, completed the requirements for a Master of Fine Arts degree at the University of Montana. She was recently converted to permanent status as a visual information specialist.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Andi Bauer** and **Ralph Falsetto** on their late September marriage. Bauer, technical writer/editor at ASO, is moving in early December to Cedar City, Utah, to work at the Dixie National Forest. Meanwhile, Falsetto, GIS coordinator at AFO, will be closing up things in Anchorage and will join his new bride shortly.

Managers of Fairbanks field offices announced

In early October, Fairbanks District Manager **Bob Schneider** announced his selections for three field manager positions created during FDO's recent reorganization.

KELLY

Lon Kelly is manager of the Arctic Field Office, comprised of the National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska and other public lands north of the Brooks Range. **Shelly Jacobson** heads the Central Yukon Field Office, which covers a broad swath of Alaska from Northway to the northwestern coast. **Lenore Heppler** manages the Eastern Interior Field Office, encompassing the White Mountains NRA and the Steese NCA, as well as the Birch Creek, Beaver Creek, and Fortymile National Wild and Scenic Rivers. In addition, **Herb Brownell** became the associate field manager for the Arctic Field Office and **Tom Edgerton** became the supervisory natural resources specialist for the Eastern Interior Field Office Resources Branch.

JACOBSON

HEPPLER

TEMPORARY

Mike Bennett, ASO, conveyance program analyst

Rodney Huffman, AFO, supervisory realty specialist

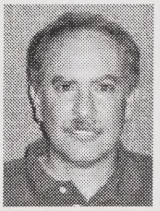
COMINGS

Melissa Head, FDO, GIS specialist

Lise Wall, AFS, aircraft dispatcher

Support Services DSD chosen

Vince Galterio will be joining BLM Alaska as the new Deputy State Director for Support Services. Galterio is currently the human resources officer for the BLM in Santa Fe, N.M., and fills a critical management position on a Type I Overhead Team. The Galterio family is excited about Alaska, and Vince expects to report for duty in mid-January.



GALTERIO

RETIREES

Charles Gallagher, AFS, airplane pilot

Jim McAllister, ASO, land law examiner

JEOPARDY!

This federal land management agency was a featured category on the Oct. 20 airing of the quiz show "Jeopardy!"

What is the BLM? Correct!

Contestants didn't fare all that well with the BLM category; let's see if you can do better. The answers, er, questions are on the back page.

$200

The Bureau's Hotshot Crews are part of its responsibility for these events on 388 million acres.

$400

In 2004, the BLM announced a fee increase to $30 to stake a new one of these.

$600

There's no free land from the BLM; this practice enshrined in an 1862 law was abolished in 1976.

$800

Of the Lower 48, this state has the most land under exclusive BLM jurisdiction, more than 75,000 square miles.

$1,000

The BLM administers Escalante National Monument, including "No Man's" this formation.

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BLM-Alaska
Office of Communications AK-912
Attn: Alaska People editor
222 W. 7th Ave. #13
Anchorage, AK 99513

Email:
wlongtin@ak.blm.gov
Call:
907-271-5555
Fax:
907-271-5421

Alaska People on hiatus

Production of Alaska People is breaking for the holidays and will return in March. We wish everyone a safe and memorable holiday season!

Acronyms

AEA: Anchorage Employee Association
AFO: Anchorage Field Office
AFOB: Anchorage Federal Office Building
AFS: Alaska Fire Service (Fort Wainwright, Fairbanks)
AKSO or ASO: Alaska State Office (Anchorage)
CCSC: Campbell Creek Science Center (Anchorage)
CTF: Campbell Tract Facility (Anchorage) – the Anchorage Field Office, warehouse and some State Office staff are located here
FDO: Fairbanks District Office
GFO: Glennallen Field Office
IB: Information Bulletin
IM: Instruction Memorandum
JPO: Joint Pipeline Office (Anchorage)

"JEOPARDY!" QUESTIONS FROM PAGE 9: $200 – What are forest fires?; $400 – What are mining claims?; $600 – What is homesteading?; $800 – What is Nevada?; $1,000 – What is a mesa?

Bureau of Land Management
Office of Communications AK-912
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